

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00247 042056Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8461
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0288
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 00247

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, US, PGOV
SUBJ: GISCARD ON BREZHNEV AND WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMITS

REFS: A. PARIS 36156 (NOTAL). B. PARIS 35241 (NOTAL).
C. PARIS 38273 (NOTAL).

1. AFP REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING MADE
FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS TO JOURNALISTS WHEN LATTER
CONVEYED TRADITIONAL NEW YEAR'S WISHES JANUARY 3, I.E.,
BEFORE RECEIPT PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S MESSAGE TRANS-
MITTED STATE 000581:

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PAGE 02 PARIS 00247 042056Z

--THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT "COULD" TAKE
PLACE NEXT SPRING, PERHAPS IN THE UK (REFTEL A);
--SECRETARY GENERAL BREZHNEV WOULD COME TO
FRANCE TOWARDS THE END OF JUNE OR EARLY IN JULY
(REFTEL B);
--GISCARD WOULD CUT BACK ON FOREIGN TRAVEL AS
LONG AS FRANCE'S ECONOMY WAS NOT STABILIZED (REFTEL C);

--EVEN SO, HE WOULD VISIT SAUDI ARABIA IN JANUARY AND MALI IN FEBRUARY, AND WOULD PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS SUMMITS, SUCH AS THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT, THE FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT WHICH SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN DAKAR AND MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL;

--ON THE DOMESTIC FRONT, GISCARD SAID HE WOULD ADDRESS THE FRENCH PEOPLE ON TV ABOUT ONCE A MONTH; COMPARED THE BARRE PLAN TO THE BATTLE OF THE MARNE AND BARRE TO JOFFRE; PROMISED AN EARLY ANALYSIS OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION; CLAIMED THE FRANC HAS BEEN STABILIZED SINCE LAST OCTOBER 12; AND WARMLY PRAISED ALAIN PEYREFITTE'S BOOK "THE FRENCH PROBLEM" (LE MAL FRANCAIS) AS ONE ALL FRENCH POLITICAL LEADERS SHOULD READ.

2. COMMENT: ONLY NEW ELEMENT, FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, IS GISCARD'S SUGGESTION THAT THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT MIGHT TAKE PLACE IN THE UK.
RUSH

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